

Japanese Folk Tale and Kabuki Theatre

Age: K-5 age group

Materials: TV-VCR

Video

Blank Masks

Markers

Glue, scissors, tape

Art supplies (glitter, crepe paper etc)

Elastic to secure mask to lace

Japanese folk tale

Journals

National Objectives: #2 The student will act by interacting in improvisation and assuming roles.

#6 The student will compare and integrate art forms by analyzing traditional theatre, dance, music, visual arts and new art forms.

#7 The student will analyze, critique, and construct meaning from informal and formal theatre, film, television, and electronic media productions

Objectives: The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of Japanese folk tale and Kabuki theatre.

Activities:

1. The teacher will ask the students to take out their journals and turn to the map inside. The teacher will then show the students where Japan is on the map.
2. The students will color Japan on their map.
3. The teacher will explain that the students are going to watch a video about a style of theatre in Japan called Kabuki theatre. The teacher tells the students to look for elements of Kabuki theatre that are different or interesting.
4. The teacher plays the video for the students.
5. After the video the teacher leads a group discussion about the video. (What did the students find interesting, different, beautiful, or strange about kabuki theatre.) During the discussion the teacher explains that the make up the actors wear is called Kumadori. The teacher has the group say Ku-Ma-Do-Ri.
6. The teacher explains that the students are now going to make a mask. The

mask may be inspired by the Kumadori make-up if the student wishes or can be a totally original idea.

7. The students make masks
8. After masks are complete the teacher explains that she is going to read a Japanese folk tale to the students.
9. The teacher reads folk tale to students
10. The teacher then explains that the students are now going to act out the folk tale while wearing their new masks.
11. The teacher reads the folk tale again while students act out the story.